

Priority: Vibrant Communities

Lead Agency: County Management

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating

Program Contact: Bob Thomas

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

The Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC) provides direct services to Multnomah County and its residents. Formerly a county bureau (the Metropolitan Arts Commission), RACC is now an independent 501(c)(3) organization that leverages significant support from other regional government partners and private donors before re-investing the County's allocation in programs and services that are creating vibrant neighborhoods, enhancing our children's education, and fueling a creative economy with measurable economic benefits. Although county funding for arts and culture has declined more than 76% since the high funding mark of \$603,096 in FY98-99, this request honors the County's directive to apply 3% cuts to all programs across the board.

Program Description

In accordance with our Multnomah County contract, RACC plays a vital role in the county's economic and community development efforts. Specifically, RACC provides services in five key areas: (1) Through Advocacy, RACC helps build support and resource for arts and culture. (2) RACC Grants provide artists and arts organizations with the base financial support they need to continue serving our community. (3) RACC's nationally acclaimed Public Art program, including the Multnomah County 1.33% for Art Ordinance, integrates a wide range of art into public spaces. (4) RACC provides other Community Services including workshops for artists, consulting for arts organizations, and a variety of printed and electronic resources; and (5) RACC is developing comprehensive Arts Education solutions for our community.

Program Justification

Arts and culture activities add measurable value to our region's economy and to our quality of life. Artists and arts organizations bring residents together for shared cultural experiences that stimulate creativity which in turn supports more innovative businesses and a richer educational experience for our children. A vibrant arts community serves as a magnet for young creatives, and Multnomah County's investment in the arts contributes to the competitive advantage we have over other regions in the nationally and globally that are all competing to attract sustainable businesses and a creative, well-educated workforce. Multnomah County is home to a vast majority of the region's artists and arts and culture organizations, which together generated more than \$318 million for the local economy last year.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY06-07)	Current Year Purchased (FY07-08)	Current Year Estimate (FY07-08)	Next Year Offer (FY08-09)
Output	County children served with integrated arts education through Arts Partners	0	0	0	5,000
Outcome	Economic impact of nonprofit arts & culture activities in the Tri-County region	318,200,000	328,400,000	328,400,000	344,000,000
Input	Multnomah County \$\$ invested in arts & culture	141,847	188,000	188,000	187,831
Efficiency	\$\$ leveraged by RACC from other public & private partners	5,121,200	5,487,000	6,071,524	7,611,000

Performance Measure - Description

RACC provides extraordinary returns on the County's limited investment. Last year's support from the County helped RACC and the arts community secure funding increases from the federal government (up 16%), the state (up 45%), the City of Portland (up 12%), Clackamas County (up 43%) and Washington County (up 21%). Private funding was up as well, with gifts to Work for Art up 925% and gifts to the Oregon Cultural Trust up 20%. Artists, arts organizations, neighborhoods, schoolchildren, and the regional economy all benefit from these increases.

RACC is leading a coalition of "Arts Partners" to equitably deliver integrated arts education activities for every K-8 student in the region by 2012. In FY09, a County investment of \$38,000 will help leverage over \$1 million from other sources to serve 5,000 students in 10 pilot schools in Multnomah County.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

None.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2008	2008	2009	2009
Contracts	\$188,000	\$0	\$187,831	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$188,000	\$0	\$187,831	\$0
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$188,000	\$0	\$187,831	\$0
Program Total:	\$188,000		\$187,831	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

This is a General Fund-supported program.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #10016, Regional Arts & Culture Council

In FY09, RACC will generate more leverage than ever before – an estimated \$7.6 million from other sources. Through outreach efforts and translation assistance funded by the City of Portland, RACC will provide more services for residents in East County and other underserved citizens throughout the County.

For FY 2009, this program was moved from the Nondepartmental budget into the Department of County Management to provide for better contract oversight on the County's part.